DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 246 713 HE 017 286

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TITLE Fall 1983 Freshmen at Private Black Colleges.
INSTITUTION United Negro College Fund, Inc., New York, N.Y.
PUB DATE Apr 84
NOTE 17p.
AVAILABLE FROM Research Department, United Negro College Fund, Inc., 500 East 62nd Street, New York, NY 10021.
PUB TYPE Reports - Research/Technical (143) -- Collected Works - Serials (022)
JOURNAL CIT Research Report; v8 n1 Apr 1984

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Academic Aspiration; *Black Colleges; Black Students; *College Freshmen; Comparative Analysis; Educational Background; *Family Characteristics; Family Income; Higher Education; National Norms; *Occupational Aspiration; *Private Colleges; *Student Characteristics

ABSTRACT

Results of a 1983 study of freshmen at private black four-year colleges and a comparison to freshmen at all four-year colleges are presented. Attention is directed to the educational, financial, and family backgrounds of the students, as well as their aspirations and interests. Data were obtained from "The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1983." Findings include the following: 88.3 percent of the private college, black freshmen graduated from public high schools; half of the students reported a high school average of 3.0 or better (on a 4.0 scale); over three-fourths of the students rated themselves above average in the drive to achieve; nearly 72 percent of the black college freshmen planned to continue their education at the graduate level, compared with 56.5 percent of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally; and the five most popular careers chosen by freshmen both at private black colleges and at four-year colleges nationally were in business, medicine, computer analysis and programming, engineering, and law and accounting or actuarial science. Information is also provided on: racial composition of high school and neighborhoods, reasons for attending college, reasons for college choice, estimated parental income, father's and mother's education and occupation, financing of college expenses, and political orientation/activities. (SW)

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Research Report

Vol VIII, No. 1, April, 1984 FROM THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND

FALL 1983 FRESHMEN AT PRIVATE BLACK COLLEGES

by

Kathleen Payne

This report examines the fall 1983 freshmen at private black four-year colleges and compares them with freshman at all four-year colleges. The data published in this report are taken from The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1983 published by the American Council on Education (ACE) and Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) at the University of California at Los Angeles. Its purpose is to provide a profile of the educational, financial and family backgrounds of private black college freshmen, as well as information on their aspirations and interests.

High School Background

The overwhelming majority (88.3%) of the private black college freshmen surveyed in fall 1983 were graduated from public high schools. Thirty percent of private black college freshmen had attended racially balanced high schools. Nearly 40% of the freshmen at private black colleges had attended mostly or completely nonwhite high schools. Over one-quarter (27.6%) of the freshmen at private black colleges had attended high schools that were mostly white.

In contrast to the racial composition of their high schools, only 15.5% of private black college freshmen lived in racially balanced neighborhoods. Over 70% lived in areas that were mostly or completely nonwhite.

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Half of the freshmen at private black colleges reported a high school average of "B" (3.0) or better and nearly one-third (32.3%) were in the top fifth of their graduating class. At four-year colleges nationally, two-thirds (66.9%) of the freshman class had a high school average of "B" or better and just over 42% graduated in the top fifth of their class.

Over two-thirds (68.6%) of the freshmen at private black colleges, compared to just over half (53.9%) of their peers at four-year colleges nationally, had above-average confidence in their intellectual ability. At private black colleges, half of the freshmen (50.1%) rated their overall academic ability above average. Forty-two percent of the private black college freshmen surveyed judged their writing ability above average, and 31.3% reported above-average skill in mathematics. At four-year colleges nationally, 60.5% of the freshmen rated themselves superior in overall academic ability. Forty percent reported above-average aptitude in writing and mathematics.

In 1983, the National Commission on Excellence in Education made recommendations for minimum academic requirements for a high school diploma. The ACE/CIRP survey gathered data based on these curriculum recommendations and found that

1) The overwhelming majority of freshmen both at private black colleges (91.4%) and all four-year colleges (90.8%) had met the four years of high school English study recommended by the Commission;

2) Private black college freshmen had met or exceeded the recommended three or more years of study in mathematics (84.3%) and social studies (63.0%) in about the same proportions as their peers at four-year colleges nationally (85.3% and 60.4% respectively);

3) Two-thirds (66.9%) of all four-year college freshmen, compared with about one-half (48.8%) of private black college freshmen, had studied foreign languages for two or more years;

4) Over half of the first-year students at private black colleges (50.9%) and at four-year colleges nationally (55.2%) had studied physical science for two years or more;

5) Thirty-eight percent of the private black college freshmen and 37% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges had taken two or more years of biological science.

Type of High School Attended	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at Four-Year Colleges Nationally
Public	88.3%	83.2%
Private	10.8%	16.2%
Other	0.9%	0.6%

Racial Composition of High School	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at Four-Year Colleges Nationally
Completely white	2.3%	18.2%
Mostly white	27.6%	58.6%
Roughly half white	30.1%	16.4%
Mostly nonwhite	22.4%	5.2%
Completely nonwhite	17.5%	1.5%

Racial Composition of Neighborhood	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at Four-Year Colleges Nationally
Completely white	2.6%	45.2%
Mostly white	11.1%	37.4%
Roughly half white	15.5%	5.8%
Mostly nonwhite	36.4%	6.9%
Completely nonwhite	34.3%	4.7%

Grade in High School	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at Four-Year Colleges Nationally
A or A+	4.7%	10.3%
A-	5.9%	11.7%
B+	16.2%	19.6%
B	23.3%	25.3%
B-	17.5%	13.8%
C+	21.2%	12.1%
C	10.7%	7.0%
D	0.4%	0.3%

Academic Rank in High School	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at Four-Year Colleges Nationally
Top 20%	32.3%	42.4%
Second 20%	23.5%	23.9%
Middle 20%	36.0%	27.8%
Fourth 20%	7.8%	5.2%
Lowest 20%	0.4%	0.7%

Student Rated Self Above-Average in	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at Four-Year Colleges Nationally
Academic ability	50.1%	60.5%
Writing ability	42.0%	40.2%
Mathematical ability	31.3%	40.1%
Intellectual self-confidence	68.6%	53.9%
Drive to achieve	75.8%	69.4%

Have Met or Exceeded Recommended Years of Study in	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at Four-Year Colleges Nationally
English (4 years)	91.4%	90.8%
Mathematics (3 years)	84.3%	85.3%
Social Studies (3 years)	63.0%	60.4%
Foreign language (2 years)	48.8%	66.9%
Physical science (2 years)	50.9%	55.2%
Biological science (2 years)	38.3%	36.9%
Civics (1 year)	62.8%	53.5%

College Selection

Freshmen at predominantly black private colleges attended college for many of the same reasons as students at all four-year private colleges. However, three-fourths of private black college freshmen (74.8%) compared to fewer than half (47.5%) of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally, cited preparation for graduate school as a very important reason to attend college. Nearly 80% of the freshmen at private black colleges, compared to 73.7% of all four-year college freshmen, chose to attend college in order to get a better job. Three-fourths (75.7%) of the private black college freshmen decided to attend college because they wanted to make more money, compared with fewer than two-thirds (64.6%) of their peers at all four-year colleges. Parents' desire for their children to go to college was a very important factor in the decision to attend college for half of the freshmen at private black colleges (50.9%) and about one-third (34.0%) of the freshmen at all four-year colleges.

Over two-thirds of private black college freshmen (67.9%), compared with 44.1% of all four-year college freshmen, reported that improving their reading and study skills was a very important factor in the decision to enroll in college. The inability to find a job was a very important reason for attending college for 10.8% of the first-year students at private black colleges, compared to 5.6% of their peers at four-year colleges nationally.

Freshmen at private black colleges (68.0%) were more likely than their peers at four-year colleges nationally (54.7%) to select their particular college because of its good academic reputation. Sixty-one percent of the freshmen at private black colleges chose their particular school because they believed its graduates found good jobs. Less than half (47.0%) of the freshmen at all four-year colleges considered this factor very important.

Similarly, private black college freshmen (45.1%) were more likely than freshmen at four-year colleges nationally (26.2%) to choose their college because its graduates were admitted to top graduate or professional schools.

The offer of financial assistance was another factor in the selection of a particular college. About 39% of private black college freshmen cited this reason as very important, compared with 27.4% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges. Students at private black colleges (13.3%) were less likely than their peers at four-year colleges nationally (18.7%) to list low tuition as a very important influence on their choice of college. More than one-third of private black college freshmen (36.2%), compared to 22.6% of all four-year college freshmen, chose their college because it offered special education programs.

The advice of family, high school counselors and representatives from their particular college were also very important factors in the private black college freshman's choice of college. Thirteen percent of private black college freshmen cited their relatives' desire for them to attend as a factor in their choice of college. About 7% of all four-year college freshmen reported this factor was very important. Freshmen at private black colleges said the advice of a guidance counselor (11.3%) and recruitment by a college representative (8.7%) were also very important influences on their decision to attend their particular college.

Reasons for Attending College	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Preparation for graduate school	74.8%	47.5%
Get better job	79.8%	73.7%
Make more money	75.7%	64.6%
Improve reading and study skills	67.9%	44.1%
Parents wanted me to go	50.9%	34.0%
Could not find a job	10.8%	5.6%

Reasons for Selecting Your College	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Good academic reputation	68.0%	54.7%
Graduates get good jobs	60.6%	47.0%
Graduates go to top grad schools	45.1%	26.2%
Offers special education programs	36.2%	22.6%
Financial assistance offered	39.2%	27.4%
Low tuition	13.3%	18.7%
Relatives wanted me to come here	13.0%	6.9%
Advice of guidance counselor	11.3%	7.9%
College rep recruited me	8.7%	4.5%

Educational Aspirations

Over three-fourths of the private black college freshmen rated themselves above average in the drive to achieve. Nearly 83% said that becoming an authority in their field was an essential or very important objective. Two-thirds considered obtaining recognition from their colleagues or being successful in their own business very important. One-quarter of the freshmen at private black colleges reported that making a theoretical contribution to science was an essential or very important goal (see page 15).

This drive to achieve is reflected by the fact that freshmen at predominantly black private colleges were more likely to plan to go on to obtain some form of advanced degree (M.A., Ph.D., M.D., LL.B., etc.) than freshmen at four-year colleges nationally. Nearly 72% of the private black college freshmen surveyed said they planned to continue their education at the graduate level, compared with 56.5% of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally.

Business was the most popular major field of study for freshmen both at private black colleges and at all four-year institutions. Approximately 23% of the first-year students at private black colleges planned to major in business; 24% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges planned to be business majors.

Engineering was the second most popular field of study. About 12.6% of the private black college freshmen and 9.2% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges indicated that they planned to major in engineering.

The arts and humanities and education, which ranked third and fourth on the list of probable majors for freshmen at all four-year colleges (respectively 9.9% and 8.3%), placed only eighth and ninth on the list of majors chosen by freshmen at private black colleges (arts and humanities, 4.7%; education, 3.1%).

About 9% of the freshmen at private black colleges chose the social sciences as their probable major, compared to 7.6% of freshmen at all four-year colleges. Private black college freshmen (5.9%) were more likely than their peers at four-year colleges nationally (4.1%) to major in biology. Freshmen at private black colleges (7.2%) were twice as likely as freshmen at all four-year colleges (3.2%) to choose pre-professional majors in medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine. Eight percent of the private black college freshmen, compared to 5.4% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges, selected computer science as their probable major. Five percent of the private black college freshmen planned to major in nursing or communications, compared to 4.3% and 2.8% respectively of their peers at four-year colleges nationally.

Highest Degree Planned	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Bachelor's (B.A., B.S.)	16.5%	36.3%
Total Graduate Degrees	71.8%	56.5%
Master's (M.A., M.S.)	34.2%	35.0%
Ph.D., M.D., LL.B., etc.	37.6%	22.3%
Other	11.7%	7.3%

Probable Major Field of Study	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Arts and Humanities	4.7%	9.9%
Biological science	5.9%	4.1%
Business	22.5%	23.8%
Communications (Radio, T.V.)	4.9%	2.8%
Computer science	8.2%	5.4%
Education	3.1%	8.3%
Engineering	12.6%	9.2%
Nursing	5.0%	4.3%
Physical science	1.8%	3.1%
Pre-professional (pre-medicine, pre-dentistry, pre-veterinary)	7.2%	3.2%
Social Sciences	8.6%	7.6%
Other	13.6%	12.7%
Undecided	1.9%	5.6%

Career Aspirations

The five most popular careers chosen by freshmen both at private black colleges and at four-year colleges nationally were in business, medicine, computer analysis and programming, engineering, law and accounting or actuarial science. Private black college freshmen (10.7%) and their peers at four-year colleges nationally (11.4%) chose business as a probable career in about the same proportions. Freshmen at private black colleges were more than twice as likely to choose medicine (9.1%) as students at four-year colleges nationally (4.1%). Thirteen percent of private black college freshmen chose computer analysis or programming as a career, compared to 8.7% of freshmen at all four-year colleges.

First-year students at private black colleges were also more likely to choose careers in engineering (12.5%) or law (7.2%) than their peers at four-year colleges nationally (respectively 7.9% and 4.6%). Six percent of the private black college freshmen and 6.5% of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally chose accounting or actuarial science as probable careers. About 5.2% of private black college freshmen and 4.3% of the private black college freshmen and 6.5% of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally chose accounting or actuarial science as probable careers. About 5.2% of private black college freshmen and 4.3% of all four-year college freshmen planned a career in nursing.

Private black college freshmen were significantly less likely to choose teaching (elementary, 1.22%; secondary, 1.2%) as a career than their peers at all four-year colleges (elementary, 4.5% secondary, 2.8%).

Probable Career Occupation	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Account or actuary	5.9%	6.5%
Business executive	10.7%	11.4%
Computer analyst or programmer	13.0%	8.7%
Engineer	12.5%	7.9%
Lawyer or judge	7.2%	4.6%
Nurse	5.2%	4.3%
Physician	9.1%	4.1%
Teacher (elementary)	1.2%	4.5%
Teacher (secondary)	1.2%	2.8%
Undecided	3.7%	11.0%
Other	30.3%	34.2%

Parental Background

Nearly 30% of the fathers of private black college freshmen and 27% of the fathers of freshmen at all four-year colleges were high school graduates; however, the fathers of first-year students at private black colleges were significantly less likely to have graduated from college (12.0%) than the fathers of freshmen at four-year colleges nationally (20.1%). Graduate degrees were held by 14.8% of the fathers of private black college freshmen and 16.5% of the fathers of freshmen at four-year colleges nationally.

Approximately 27.5% of the mothers of private black college freshmen were high school graduates and 15.2% were college graduates, compared to respectively 37.8% and 17.4% of the mothers of freshmen at four-year colleges nationally. Interestingly, the mothers of private black college freshmen were twice as likely to hold graduate degrees (15.6%) as the mothers of freshmen at all four-year colleges (7.7%).

Parents of first-year students at private black colleges earned substantially less than the parents of freshmen at all four-year colleges. Approximately 30.4% of the freshmen at private black colleges reported their family income was less than $10,000, compared to 10.8% of the first-year students at four-year colleges nationally. About 47.3% of the private black college freshmen, compared to 21.3% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges, reported family incomes under $15,000. Over two-thirds of the private black college freshmen (67.5%) estimated their family income was less than $25,000, compared to 41.9% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges. Less than two-thirds (64.8%) of private black college freshmen surveyed had received assistance from their parents worth $600 or more in the previous year or expected to receive it in the current year, compared to three-fourths (74.6%) of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally.

Nearly 9% of the fathers of freshmen at private black colleges were unemployed, three times the rate for the fathers of freshmen at four-year colleges nationally (3.0%). A comparison of unemployment among the mothers of freshmen at private black colleges with that among the mothers of freshmen at all four-year colleges shows a similar pattern. About 10.6% of the mothers of private black college freshmen were unemployed, compared to 6.8% of the mothers of their peers at all four-year colleges.

"Businessman" was the most cited occupation of the fathers of entering freshmen. The fathers of students at four-year colleges nationally (29.7%) were twice as likely as those of private black college freshmen (14.0%) to be businessmen. About 10% of the fathers of first-year students both at predominantly black colleges (10.3%) and at all four-year colleges (9.7%) were skilled workers. The fathers of private black college freshmen were twice as likely to be unskilled workers (6.2%) as the fathers of freshmen at four-year colleges nationally (3.0%).

The mothers of freshmen at private black colleges were significantly less likely to be full-time homemakers than were the mothers of freshmen at four-year colleges nationally. Nearly one-quarter of first-year students at all four-year colleges (24.7%) reported that their mothers were full-time homemakers, compared to 9.0% of the mothers of freshmen at private black colleges. One-fifth (20.1%) of the mothers of private black college freshmen were elementary or secondary school teachers, 7.6% were nurses, 8.9% were businesswomen and 3.3% were health professionals. Three percent of the mothers of private black college freshmen were skilled workers, 4.2% worked at semi-skilled jobs and 3.2% were unskilled workers.

Estimated Parental Income	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Less than $ 4,000	10.5%	3.2%
$ 4,000 - $ 5,999	7.7%	2.4%
$ 6,000 - $ 7,999	6.4%	2.3%
$ 8,000 - $ 9,999	5.8%	2.9%
$10,000 - $12,499	9.6%	5.6%
$12,500 - $14,999	7.3%	4.9%
$15,000 - $19,999	10.0%	8.6%
$20,000 - $24,999	10.2%	12.0%
$25,000 or more	32.5%	58.1%

Receiving Assistance Worth $600 or More from Parents	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Yes	64.8%	74.6%
No	35.2%	25.4%

Father's Education	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Grammar school or less	9.9%	5.0%
Some high school	15.9%	9.6%
H. S. graduate	29.8%	27.2%
Postsecondary other than college	4.6%	4.7%
Some college	11.4%	14.3%
College graduate	12.0%	20.1%
Some graduate school	1.6%	2.6%
Graduate degree	14.8%	16.5%

Mother's Education	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Grammar school or less	5.3%	3.1%
Some high school	13.6%	7.8%
H. S. graduate	27.5%	37.8%
Postsecondary other than college	5.3%	7.7%
Some college	14.7%	16.0%
College graduate	15.2%	17.4%
Some graduate school	2.8%	2.5%
Graduate degree	15.6%	7.7%

Father's Occupation	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Businessman	14.0%	29.7%
Doctor or dentist	2.2%	2.4%
Educator (elementary)	1.4%	0.7%
Educator (secondary)	4.5%	3.9%
Engineer	4.1%	7.5%
Skilled worker	10.3%	9.7%
Semi-Skilled worker	6.5%	4.9%
Laborer (unskilled)	6.2%	3.0%
Other	42.3%	35.2%
Unemployed	8.5%	3.0%

Mother's Occupation	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Business (clerical)	5.6%	10.8%
Businesswoman	8.9%	10.6%
Educator (elementary)	12.2%	6.3%
Educator (secondary)	7.9%	3.4%
Health Professional (non-M.D.)	3.3%	1.8%
Homemaker (full-time)	9.0%	24.7%
Nurse	7.6%	7.3%
Social, Welfare, Rec. worker	3.3%	1.3%
Skilled worker	2.9%	1.9%
Semi-skilled worker	4.2%	3.2%
Laborer (unskilled)	3.2%	2.0%
Other	12.3%	19.8%
Unemployed	10.6%	6.8%

Financing College

In view of their lower family income, it is not surprising that three-fourths of the freshmen at private black colleges were concerned about financing their college expenses, compared to less than two-thirds of the freshmen at private colleges nationally. About 35% of the private black college freshmen compared to half of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally (49.8%), said they would have attended the same college if they had not received financial aid. Thirty percent of the first-year students at private black colleges would have attended a less expensive institution, 11.2% would have joined the armed forces (more than double the 4.2% figure for freshmen at all four-year colleges) and 17.2% would have abandoned the idea of attending college for at least that year and would have looked for work.

Thirty percent of the private black college freshmen said they received no financial assistance from their parents for their education, compared to 27.5% of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally. One-third of the private black college freshmen received $1,000 or more in parental aid, compared to nearly one-half (48.7%) of the freshmen at all four-year institutions.

Over three-quarters of the freshmen at private black colleges had no money saved from summer employment and 89.3% had no savings from any other sources.

Fifty-nine percent of the private black college freshmen received the Pell grant in the 1983-84 school year, compared to 29.8% of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally.

Concern About Financing College	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
No concern	25.1%	32.5%
Some concern	50.5%	51.2%
Major concern	24.4%	16.3%

If No Financial Aid Received This Year, Student Would	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Attend same college	35.4%	49.8%
Attend less expensive college	30.4%	22.8%
Join military service	11.4%	4.2%
Look for work	17.2%	17.1%
Other	5.7%	6.0%

Sources of Support for Educational Expenses	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Parental Aid:		
None	29.5%	27.5%
$ 1 - $ 499	24.8%	14.6%
$ 500 - $ 999	12.3%	9.1%
$1,000 - $1,499	6.5%	8.0%
$1,500 - $2,000	5.8%	7.8%
Over $2,000	21.0%	32.9%
Savings from Summer Work:		
None	76.0%	59.0%
$ 1 - $ 499	16.6%	19.4%
$ 500 - $ 999	5.2%	11.7%
$1,000 - $1,499	1.4%	5.8%
$1,500 - $2,000	0.3%	2.3%
Over $2,000	0.5%	1.8%
Other Savings:		
None	89.3%	82.4%
$ 1 - $ 499	7.6%	10.2%
$ 500 - $ 999	1.6%	3.2%
$1,000 - $1,499	0.7%	1.7%
$1,500 - $2,000	0.4%	0.9%
Over $2,000	0.3%	1.6%
Pell Grant		
None	41.0%	70.2%
$ 1 - $ 499	4.7%	6.1%
$ 500 - $ 999	12.2%	8.0%
$1,000 - $1,499	12.0%	6.7%
$1,500 - $2,000	16.7%	5.0%
Over $2,000	13.5%	4.0%

Political Concerns

The freshmen surveyed at private black colleges were generally more politically concerned and active than their peers at all four-year colleges. Over one-third of the freshmen at private black colleges (36.5%) reported that they had participated in organized demonstrations within the previous year, compared with 22.7% of four-year college freshmen nationally. About 16% of the private black college freshmen had worked in a political campaign within the previous year, compared to 9% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges.

About 47% of the freshmen at private black colleges characterized their political orientation as "middle-of-the-road", 30.6% said they were liberal, 17.0% were conservative, 3.7% were on the far left and 1.8% reported they were on the far right.

Forty-four percent of the freshmen at private black colleges said that influencing social values was very important to them. Thirty-three percent of the freshmen at four-year colleges nationally felt this was an important objective. First-year students at private black collleges (29.1%) were nearly twice as likely as their peers at all four-year colleges (15.3%) to cite "influencing the political structure" as a very important goal. Over half of the freshmen at black private colleges (54.8%) considered keeping up with political affairs to be a very important objective, compared to 38.4% of the freshmen at all four-year colleges. More than 43% of the first-year students at private black colleges, compared to 24.9% of the freshmen at four-year collleges nationally, reported that participating in a community action program was a very important objective.

Naturally, freshmen at black private colleges were more likely to consider helping to promote racial understanding an essential objective than freshmen at four-year colleges nationally, nearly three-quarters of the private black college freshmen (72.6%), compared to one-third (34.5%) of their peers at all four-year colleges. Nearly 56% of private black college freshmen, compared to 37% of all four-year college freshmen, agreed with the idea that students from disadvantaged social backgrounds should be given preferential treatment in college admissions, but almost all the freshmen both at private black colleges (89.9%) and at all four-year colleges (91.6%) agreed strongly that all college graduates should be able to demonstrate some minimal competency in written English and mathematics.

Political Orientation/Activities	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Far left	3.7%	1.9%
Liberal	30.6%	20.3%
Middle-of-the-road	46.9%	58.2%
Conservative	17.0%	18.6%
Far right	1.8%	1.1%
Participated in organized demonstration within the past year	36.5%	22.7%
Worked in political campaign within the past year	16.2%	9.0%

Essential or Very Important Objectives	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Become authority in my field	82.5%	73.9%
Obtain recognition from colleagues	66.4%	56.5%
Be successful in my own business	66.3%	49.8%
Make a theoretical contribution to science	24.5%	13.8%
Influence political structure	29.1%	15.3%
Influence social structure	44.1%	33.1%
Keep up with political affairs	54.8%	38.4%
Help promote racial understanding	72.6%	34.5%
Participate in a community action program	43.4%	24.9%
Be involved in environmental cleanup	31.5%	21.7%

Agree Strongly or Somewhat	Freshmen at Private Black Colleges	Freshmen at All Four-Year Colleges
Preferential treatment for disadvantaged	55.7%	37.0%
Minimal competence for college grad	89.9%	91.6%

The Research Report is published by the Research Department of the United Negro College Fund, a consortium of forty-two private black colleges and universities. For information contact the Research Department, United Negro College Fund, Inc., 500 East 62nd Street, New York, New York 10021 — (212) 644-9612.

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